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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

winning ways

The Money Hunt

By Katie Heinrich, Young Numismatist

At the past Central States Numismatic Association's spring convention in St. Louis, Missouri, my friend and I carried out the "Money Hunt". We had been working on organizing and putting together the hunt for over a year. The two of us initiated the project to earn our Girl Scout Silver Award. The Silver Award is the highest award that a Cadette Girl Scout can earn and requires a substantial amount of work and includes earning three interest patches, three awards and completing a service project. Each girl must spend a total of at least 40 hours on the service project alone. My friend Whitney Fox and I decided to do a kind of treasure hunt for Central States. We picked this not only to do something related to numismatics, but also because I wanted to give something back to CSNS, who has supported me so much in the past years. The Money Hunt could never have happened if we hadn't had the support of the Central States officials and governors. My thanks go out to all of them.

When a YN came to our table to start the Money Hunt, which lasted from Noon to 5:00 on Saturday, they received a bag of various "goodies" including a buffalo nickel and a two-sided puzzle of the Brasher Doubloon. They were also given everything that they needed to complete the hunt, which included the following: a booklet of pictures and numbers which corresponded to the badges that certain dealers wore, an answer sheet with simple steps on how they should go about completing the hunt, and an activity booklet of numismatic puzzles and coloring pages. Each YN would then go around the bourse floor and find each of the seventeen dealers wearing a Money Hunt badge. The dealer would then tell the YN what the numismatic item on their badge was and would give the participant a little "goodie", such as a steel cent or a colorized Canadian quarter. When the YN found every dealer and completed their answer sheet they returned to our table and their name was entered into a drawing for a first or second place prize. Each participant also received coupons to purchase food from the convention center concession stands. At 5:00 Whitney and I drew the names for the first and second place prizes. Even though you did not need to be present to win, both of the winners were still at the show at the time of the drawing.

I would like to give my sincere thanks to every person who helped to make the Money Hunt possible. It couldn't have happened without all of the dealers who agreed to be stops on the hunt. Also, out of every one who helped at Central States, I would especially like to thank Ray and Fran Lockwood, Rollie and Patti Finner, Bill Kamb, Marv Mericle, Kevin Foley, Jerry Lebo, Harry Tileston and Wendell Wolka

Right to left: Harry Tileston, myself, Whitney Fox, Kevin Foley, and Ray Lockwood

Whitney and I instructing a YN on how to do the Money Hunt.

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Letters-to-the-Editor Policy
Letters-to-the-Editor are welcome from both members and non-members and must include your name, address and phone number. Letters will be published in WINNING WAYS as space and publication deadlines permit and are subject to Editorial discretion. Whenever a letter is addressing a specific problem that the Board can assist in resolving, it will be forwarded to the appropriate personnel.

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Articles, photos and features pertaining in the numismatic industry are welcome and are subject to editorial discretion and editing.

New Publication Deadline Dates:
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THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Prue Fitts

We have had so much rain that here in the Northeast, we are getting ready to build an Ark while many of you are broiling. But, as a wise friend of mine said, "it is what it is". For me, it is the end of the more leisurely winter when I can work on my Byzantine coin collection and actually go to the Bank and visit it! But the flip side are the shows and the chance to trade or add to the collection.

The Kansas City ANA show was excellent – see Rita Jene's minutes "From the Secretary's Desk." As a result of that meeting, you will receive the new "By-Laws" with revisions which are in this issue. Please look it over. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Parliamentarian, Patti Finner, as we will bring changes for a vote in San Francisco. One of the Prize winning exhibits at the show was Kay Edgerton Lenker's Wildman coinage from Germany. It was a fascinating walk into history and promotion of image of strength in coinage.

Pacific Northwest Numismatic Association had their show the end of April. A small show it is superbly run with a wonderfully friendly atmosphere. WIN members Scott and Lisa Loos run the show and WIN member Susan Billings won a First for her AA Founder's Day tokens in the Exhibits.

On to Central States, in May. Lots of WIN involvement there. We had a Board meeting to transfer the books to our new Treasurer, Cindy Mohon, one of WIN's Charter members. Cindy Grellman is taking a deserved time out from the job and we thank her for her dedication to the organization. She gave us a wonderful talk on coins of the Bible at the General meeting. A big attraction at the CSNS show was Katie Heinrich's YN Treasure Hunt. She and her friend, designed and facilitated the hunt as a Girl Scout project. It sent kids all over the Bourse floor to find coins and answer questions while learning about coins. Katie and her sister, Anna, both won for their exhibits as well. Congratulations to a dynamic numismatic family. Look for a brand new column by Katie in this issue of WINNING WAYS on page 2. Congratulations to Nancy Wilson for her exhibit, too.

Enclosed in this issue are raffle tickets for you to buy or to sell. In addition, we will have tickets in San Francisco. WE NEED YOUR HELP. WIN will have an information booth at the SF show. If you are going to be there, please plan to donate an hour or more if you can to sit at the booth. There will be an exhibit of WIN material to look at, applications and issues of WINNING WAYS. There will also be a plan of the Bourse floor and more raffle tickets. Last year, we all signed up to take one or two rows to sell tickets. It doesn't take a lot of time to do this, and helps us all out. We are sending three women to the ANA summer seminar this year - it could be you next year.

WIN General meeting will be at 9AM on Saturday at San Francisco. Cindy Mohon will talk to us about the Mint pre and post the Quake. Join us where the real quaking will be with the fun we will have.

Prue
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WIN Meeting

Place: ANA Convention San Francisco
Date: Saturday July 30, 2005
Speaker: Cindy Mohon
Subject: The San Francisco Mint
Time: 9:00 AM
Join us for coffee!

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Copy must be received by the following deadlines:

February 15.....April Issue
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"Home or Hell in Half an Hour"

Favorite American Coins from my Collection

By David Wray - PART 2 of 3

(continued from April Winning Ways)

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY FAVORITES

In the 18th century, the standard by which colonial coins were measured was the Spanish Milled or Pillar Dollar -- a "Piece of Eight." (See figure 3). Spanish silver coins were famous for their consistent weight and purity. From 1537 to 1800, the silver content of Spanish coins diminished only 4.4%. Eight reales (Eight bits) made one pillar dollar, and sixteen pillar dollars were equivalent to one gold doubloon. English colonists frequently sawed pillar dollars and smaller silver denominations into halves, quarters and eighths -- into "bits" to make small change.

Figure 3. 1735 Phillip V Pillar Dollar, Mexico Mint

Perhaps half or more of the coins in colonial America were Spanish reales. In 1645 Virginia declared the Spanish reale standard currency. In fact, the first coinage authorized in England for the colonies, the tin American Plantations token of 1688 minted at the Tower of London, stated its value on the obverse not in terms of English currency but as 1/24th of a Spanish reale.

In the American colonies the value of Spanish silver and other foreign coins was expressed in colonial shillings. These weren't British sterling shillings; these were "monies of account" legislated by each colony. So the value of a "shilling of account" wasn't the same from colony to colony. In addition, the values of shillings of account fluctuated over time within each colony. Massachusetts silver coins initially traded at four shillings and sixpence to the pillar dollar, but inflated to six shillings to a pillar dollar by the 1780's.

Spanish dollars were made legal tender in the United States in 1793, and were not demonetized until 1857. Terms related to these coins, "two bits", "pieces of eight" and "picayune" have become part of American vocabulary. When the New York Stock Exchange opened in 1792, rates were reported in terms of New York shillings that traded eight to a dollar; changes were reported in eighths. The NYSE didn't convert to a decimal system until 2001.

One thing I particularly like about the pillar dollar obverse is the map of the Western Hemisphere on the left orb. It's interesting that by the 18th century most European map makers (more or less) accurately showed how Baja connected to North America, but pillar dollars continued to show Baja California as an island west of California. Baja California probably was an island once. I'm reminded of a wonderful legend where I grew up in Southern California, how a Spanish Galleon commanded by Captain Juan de Iturbe in 1610 was lost in the desert with a huge cargo of pearls. (See http://www.losttreasure.com/newsletter/6-1-2000/6-1-2000.html for the story.) The captain was able to sail from the Gulf of Baja California to an inland California sea, somewhere near Palm Springs, but disaster struck when the water suddenly rushed away leaving the ship stranded. The ship and its cargo remain lost to the present day, perhaps buried under rolling waves of sand dunes.

Eighteenth Century Coppers

The history of eighteenth-century copper coins in the United States helps illustrate the difficulties of starting a democracy -- the hopes, the idealism, the opportunism, and the hard-times that affected everyone in this country. These coppers help connect me with the lives of four Revolutionary War Privates that my grandfather worked so hard to find in our family tree. Each coin tells a different part of the story.

CONGRESS' FIRST ATTEMPT

The story of the Nova Constellatio Cent (see Figure 4) describes the first attempt of the Continental Congress to deal with the currency problems in the confederation of the United States of America.

Figure 4. 1783 Nova Constellatio Cent, Blunt Rays

As early as September 1776, Thomas Jefferson documented the varieties of silver and gold coins circulating in the colonies and their exchange rates in terms of the pillar dollar. He even used decimal notation.

(continued on page 6)

"Home or Hell in Half an Hour"

Favorite American Coins from my Collection

By David Wray - PART 2 of 3

(continued from page 5)

In 1783, after the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, the Superintendent of Finance for the confederation of the United States of America, Robert Morris, attempted to act according to the Articles of Confederation which gave Congress "sole and exclusive right and power of regulating the alloy and value of coin struck by their own authority..."

At one time, one pillar dollar traded at different rates throughout the United States. The rates varied hugely, ranging from 5 shillings to a pillar dollar in Georgia to 32 shillings and sixpence to a pillar dollar in South Carolina.

Trying to optimize accounting convenience, Robert Morris developed a complex system using a decimal currency based on "federal units." He assigned a value of 1440 units to a pillar dollar and proposed coins as follows: silver coins denominated as 1000, 500 and 100 units and copper coins denominated as eight-unit and five-unit pieces. It then would be possible to convert State currencies easily. For example, three 8-unit coins would equal a penny in New York and North Carolina, and three 5-unit coins would equal a penny in Georgia. South Carolina currency still was a little complicated with approximately 3.7 units equal to a penny, but Morris simplified this relationship by saying that six eight-unit coins equaled thirteen South Carolina pence.

With the assistance of Gouverneur Morris (Gouverneur was the name, not a title, of an assistant who was not a relative), Robert Morris designed coinage, hired staff, operated a Mint out of an old Masonic hall in Philadelphia, and made a few trial coins. These were the first, the only official, and absolutely the most rare of Nova Constellatio coins. (Figure 4 does not show one of these!) When Robert Morris tried to pay his staff and fund the effort at the end of 1783, Congress killed the whole project.

The strongest opponent to the Morris Plan, Thomas Jefferson, argued that the purpose of creating a new monetary system was to eliminate cumbersome old currencies. Because the coins proposed by Robert Morris were not close in value to any existing coins, people would find them hard to use. In short, the accounting advantages of Morris's system might provide for easy implementation, but structural inconveniences of the system would remain forever.

Jefferson proposed an alternative decimal system based on the pillar dollar. A tenth of a dollar and a hundredth of a dollar were denominations close in value to coins already in daily use; the tenth-dollar was close to the Spanish bit, and the hundredth-dollar was close in value to the English halfpence. Jefferson suggested issuing denominations of fifty, twenty-five, twenty, five, and one-half cents, and that a ten-dollar gold piece could be minted, if needed.

Congress approved a Jeffersonian decimal monetary system in July 1785, while Jefferson was in Paris. Specifically, Congress recommended the minting of a gold coin of five dollars, of silver coins in denominations of one dollar, fifty cents, twenty-five cents, ten cents, and five cents, and of copper one-cent and one-half cent coins. Regardless of congressional approval, no national decimal coins were minted until 1792.

In the meantime, private copper Nova Constellatio pieces somehow got issued around 1785. How did this happen?

British counterfeiters had been flooding America with poor quality lightweight halfpence for some time. After congress rejected Robert Morris's plan for Nova Constellatio coinage -- realizing that underweight coppers could be traded for more than it would cost to make them in England and import them -- Robert Morris and Gouverneur Morris became silent partners of William Constable & Company in 1784. William Constable & Company minted copper coins in Birmingham and got them in circulation in the United States by 1785.

During the second half of the 1780's the Republic of Vermont, as well as the states of Connecticut, New Jersey and Massachusetts, began producing coppers that were heavier than the private Nova Constellatio coppers. As the availability of heavier coppers improved, resistance developed toward accepting lightweight. For example, New York passed a law in 1787 to restrict the circulation of Nova Constellatio coppers. The coins soon lost value, and people sold them at a discount. Unscrupulous mints then purchased discounted Nova Constellatio coppers and restruck them as New Jersey, Vermont, and Connecticut coppers.

(continued on page 11)

JIM BEST, Editor
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EDITORS NOTEBOOK

This issue of Winning Ways brings to an end another year. Hopefully you have enjoyed the articles, pictures, and columns. I am again calling from you as a member, to submit an article of a numismatic related subject to be published in future Winning Ways. The article does not need to be long, just something of interest to our members, who have many diversified interests. Perhaps the artcile you submit will be selected for the literary award which is awarded each year at the FUN show.

I hope in the year 2006 you will be able to attend one of our WIN general membership meetings and meet your fellow members. I would like to see more members attending these meetings. We have great speakers, and good coffee. Remember our meetings our now at 9:00AM on Saturday.

OK! Some of you found some of the errors in the last journal and a few of you found all the errors, and a couple of you found errors that I didn't put in, and I apologize for those couple. The others were put in just to see if anyone reads this journal. Yes, they do and that pleases me to no end. I put a couple in that were very obvious and others were kind of hidden. I promise not to do it again, well maybe. If I feel that no one is reading this journal, then maybe I will try a few again in a future issue. What is rather funny is that most of the people who caught the errors are not members of W.I.N., but people who have picked up a copy at a local show. It might pay you one day to read the journal in its entirety. Maybe I will have a contest in a future journal just to see if members do read it.

Don't forget to sell your 50/50 tickets and get them to Cindy Mohon before July 25.

Jim

Think About It.....

By, Rita Jene Sledz

In my next life, I wanna be a female bear.
If you're a bear, you get to hibernate. You do nothing but sleep for six months. I could deal with that.
Before you hibernate, you're supposed to eat yourself stupid. I could deal with that too.
If you're a bear, you birth your children (who are the size of walnuts) while you're sleeping and wake to partially grown cute cuddly cubs. I definitely could deal with that.
If you're a mamma bear, everyone knows you mean business. You swat anyone who bothers your cubs. If your cubs get out of line, you swat them too. And I could deal with that.
If you're a bear, your mate **EXPECTS** you to wake up growling. He **EXPECTS** that you will have hairy legs and excess body fat.
Yup... I wanna be a bear.

The Information Highway in Ancient Times

By Prue Fitts - Part 2

(Continued from April Winning Ways)

Added to the coin mix was the Chinese monetary system made exclusively of cast bronze (later brass as well). These coins were never struck and were usually of a single denomination. Different forms were used from the 4th Century B.C.E. (**photo5**) until the Qin Emperor Shu Huangdi in the early third century B.C.E. unified the currency in the form of a round coin with a square hole called the *banliang* (a half ounce or 12 *chu*). Its weight varied from 10-6 grams. In 118 B.C.E., a new type the *wuzhu* was introduced. It was equivalent to *5 chu* and weighed about 3.5 grams. It stayed very much the same until the late 19th Century. These coins were not very successful for large business transactions as they had to be strung together in groups of a thousand, each string weighing more than three kilograms. The readily identifiable shape represents the universe (round) and China as the center (the square).

photo #5

Arguably what has proved to be of more lasting significance and value than coinage was the transference of information along the Silk Road. Buddhism which started in northeast India in the sixth century B.C.E., was adopted by King Ashoka as the official religion of his empire three hundred years later. In China, wisemen of Emperor Ming-ti analyzed a vision of a golden figure floating across the room which he had seen. They decided he had seen the Buddha and sent an envoy to India for information, He brought back sacred texts and Indian princes who explain Buddhism. They also brought with them a new style of art.[5] Because the Himalayans were an effective barrier to direct contact between the two countries, this new art form grew slowly picking up different influences as it meandered along the routes. The Buddhist kingdom of Gandhara (now Northwest Pakistan) portrayed a Greek influence from the time of Alexander the Great and portrayed the Buddha in classical human form. This was a complete departure from the tradition of showing Buddha in mystical and symbolic form as a wheel or a tree in Sanscript characters. Because he had achieved Nirvana, he no longer existed. The toga-like robe replaced the loin cloth. Under Indian influence, his eyes became heavy lidded and stretched ear lobes symbolize his casting away of heavily jeweled earrings from his worldly self. (**photo #6**)[6]

photo #6

Other religions used the information highway as well, notably the Christian Nestorians who were outlawed by the Council of Ephesus in 432 because they believed that Christ could not be divine AND human at the same time; and the Manichaeists. This last surfaced in Persia in the 3rd century and was based on the opposing principles of Light (in the form of the spirit) and Darkness (the flesh). Many centuries later it was violently supressed and subsumed by Islam in the West Buddhism in the East.

The hey day of civilization along the Silk Road was during the T'ang Dynasty (618-907), called the Golden Age of China. This period, characterized by peace and prosperity, encouraged art particularly in its capital Xian which had grown to 2 million by the 8th Century. Caravans began their journey here, so providers of all kinds of goods were set up. Pilgrims congregated and entertainment and arts flourished to please the Emperor. Dancers and musicians were imported as well as entire orchestras. Tomb furnishings found with the terracotta tomb figures in Xian give a wealth of information about their servants, horses, buildings and the costuming and fashion of the women. (**photo #7**)[7] Foreigners were also represented, complete with occupations and ethnicities.

photo #7

[5] Which we now call, Sereindian, a combination of Seres("China") and India.
[6] Life size Buddhist monks from Bezeklik, taken to Berlin in the 1920's destroyed in WWI I.
[7] Tang Dynasty glazed pottery figure with extraordinary hair and dress. The Chinese believed that some part of the life force of a human was contained in the hair, so women wore it long, using elaborate pins to pile it up.

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The Information Highway in Ancient Times

By Prue Fitts - Part 2

(Continued from page 8)

As the T'ang dynasty began to decline, the Silk Road did also. Monasteries, temples with works of art vanished under mounds of wind-whipped sand to become the stuff of legends until the 19th Century when explorers rediscovered many of them. In 1875 a Kirghiz tribesman wrote an account of seeing walls rising above reeds of salt marshes which concealed the old city of Lopnor. He wrote that people who go in there, die (the translation of Taklamakan) attempting to steal the treasure of pearls, precious stones and ingots of silver and gold which lay in heaps in the temples. It was believed that the inhabitants were sinners, who had caused their burial in rains of sand which lent a "curse". Neighboring countries who attempted to excavate the mounds, were innundated by winds from the "four quarters of heaven" and they, too were lost.[8]

By 1860's, the British wanted to map the oases of the Taklamakan. To hide their true mission, Captain T.G. Montgomerie of the Survey of India proposed the use of 'moonshees', natives of India who journeyed the area on their way to trade. A one-man expedition was financed and Mohamed -i-hameed was trained in the use of surveying tools. His equipment included a Himalayan staff adapted to hide a compass. Detection meant certain death. His journey was successful, though he himself died within sight of his Kashmir on his return. His notes provided a valuable base for future explorers, describing towns which were as capriciously uncovered as they were buried, and artifacts which had been retrieved.

Of incalculable value were manuscripts first found by native but not identified treasure hunters who traversed the northern arm of the Silk Road in 1889. Tunneling into a tower which they believed to contain treasure, they found old papers as well as the mummified corpses of animals (including a cow which guarded the papers). They offered the papers to a local Moslem judge who in turn offered them to someone else. Word of the unusual and unreadable manuscripts traveled. They were one of the oldest written works ever found, dated from the 5th century and probably written by Buddhist monks. The dryness of the Taklamakan preserved the birch bark leaves they were written on. They were seven distinct (but incomplete texts) about necromancy and medicine.

The race was on. All major powers sent expeditions to explore, find and take home ancient works of art, manuscripts, wall paintings, books and textiles. Most were taken to Museums. By 1925, China had awakened to the pillage and shut the door to foreign expeditions insisting that all future negotiations would include Chinese scholars and retention of found material by the Chinese government. And so it remains.

[8] *One exception was an account by Ney Elais' in 1895 of a systematic pillage of the ancient site in Khotan by the Amir of Kashgar, the tyrannical Mirza Aba Bakr. A massive number of slaves indeed retrieve everything of intrinsic value. He was beheaded in his sleep - was it the "curse?"*

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Dick Billings - WA
Walter Ostromecki - CA
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"Home or Hell in Half an Hour"

Favorite American Coins from my Collection

By David Wray - PART 2 of 3

(continued from page 6)

ANOTHER TRY

Figure 5 1787 Fugio Cent

In 1787, the Continental again tried to address the huge problem of counterfeit and lightweight coppers in the United States. This time, they passed a resolution to contract a private company to mint national copper cent pieces -- the Fugio Cent. (See Figure 5.) Because designs and mottos -- e.g., Fugio (I fly), Mind Your Business, and We Are One -- one the coin were the work of Benjamin Franklin, the coin often is called the Franklin cent.

Congress directed that the Fugio coppers be made equal in weight to the English halfpence, with one hundred equal in value to a pillar dollar. An unscrupulous businessman named James Jarvis bribed the head of the US Treasury Board and won the contract to produce 300 tons of these coins. The United States government even gave Jarvis 30 tons of copper to begin operations, allowing him to pay for the copper with minted coins.

Jarvis set up shop, left his father-in-law in charge, and traveled to Europe to search for more copper on credit. Meanwhile, "Dad" used most of the government copper to mint 1787 Connecticut coppers, coins that were lighter and more profitable than Fugio cents.

The James Jarvis mint never obtained additional copper, and used only four tons of the government copper to produce approximately 400,000 slightly underweight Fugio cents (about 1.3% of the 300 tons contracted for production). Jarvis delivered these to the U.S. Treasury in 1788. A disgruntled Congress soon voided Jarvis's contract and tried to recover what it could. Jarvis, Dad, and the die-maker all fled to Europe.

The "Congress Coppers" as the Fugio's were called never circulated much, but may have circulated most in Massachusetts. Ironically, this state found another way to go wrong minting coins.

THE MASSACHUSETTS MISTAKE

During the confederation era states commonly licensed private companies to mint coins. States regulated the mints by decree and law, and required fees from the companies to operate the mints. In 1786, however, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts started along a different path. While considering a private request for coining privileges, a Commonwealth committee estimated that a mint producing 20,000 pounds worth of coppers would obtain approximately 9,800 pounds in profit. The Commonwealth soon decided that it should establish a mint and keep the profits for itself. This is how Massachusetts coppers (see Figure 6) were born.

Figure 6 1788 Massachusetts Penny, Period after TTS

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts paid much more attention to details than private enterprises in Vermont, Connecticut and New Jersey. In fact, Massachusetts was the only mint to comply with the 1785 federal resolution that required 100 cents to the Spanish milled dollar. This made Massachusetts cents slightly heavier than British halfpence. In practice, however, Massachusetts cents circulated at eighteen cents to the shilling, the same rate as lighter Connecticut coppers. Because six shilling (108 cents!) equaled a Spanish dollar, Massachusetts coppers circulated at a rate less than their value!

Even worse, the Commonwealth audited its minting operation in 1788 and found that it spent approximately 2,140 pounds to make 940 pounds worth of coppers. Each coin cost more than double its face value to produce!

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"Home or Hell in Half an Hour"

Favorite American Coins from my Collection

By David Wray - PART 2 of 3

(continued from page 12)

In November 1788, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ordered its mint to close once it finished its supply of copper. The Commonwealth again considered private minting proposals, but soon stopped these activities altogether. The new Federal Constitution of the United States, effective March 1789, made the production of coins a federal responsibility.

Regardless, high-quality Massachusetts coppers were well-received and stayed in circulation for decades.

Eighteenth Century U.S. Silver

The United States Congress authorized the production of Silver Dollars in 1792, but didn't produce Flowing Hair Silver Dollars until 1794. (See Figure 7.)

Figure 7. 1795 Flowing Hair Silver Dollar

The Flowing Hair dollar is slightly larger and heavier and -- accidentally -- contains more silver than Morgan and Peace dollars. Congress specified that the coins be produced from an alloy of approximately 89% silver and 11% copper. But the Assayer at the U.S. Mint persuaded his management to use a higher standard. Not only was the specified alloy difficult to make, but the Assayer also claimed that coins with less than 90% silver would quickly turn black from normal use. This meant that the U.S. mint broke U.S. law to make better coins than required. Further, citizens who brought silver to the mint suffered losses because they received fewer silver dollars in return for the silver they provided.

The oldest family Will that I have dates from 1793. John Loftin, my fifth great-grandfather left 400 acres of land (a grant from George III), 18 slaves by name, four beds, four horses, and fifty pounds in cash. Interestingly he claimed to own only 11 slaves in the Census of 1790. Fifty pounds at this time in Virginia was approximately equivalent to 166 dollars.

The Flowing Hair Silver Dollar was minted only two years, 1794 and 1795. In 1795, the girlish Liberty on the obverse of the silver dollar changed to the bust of a more mature woman. (See Figure 8.)

Figure 8. 1797 Liberty Head Silver Dollar, Draped Bust, Small Eagle

Possibly at the suggestion of President George Washington, the artist Gilbert Stuart designed the new portrait of Liberty. He based the portrait on Ann Willing Bingham from Philadelphia, considered by many to be the most beautiful woman of her time.

Draped Bust/Small Eagle dollars come in more than a dozen major varieties, some distinguished by the size of the date and inscriptions. However, the number and arrangement of stars on the obverse -- 13, 15, and sometimes 16 stars --- determine most varieties. These coins were minted from 1795 to 1798.

After Tennessee became a state in 1796, silver dollars were minted in 1797 with 16 stars. This is one of the more rare major varieties and also one of the reasons this coin holds special meaning for me.

In general, the early American silver dollars are among my all-time favorite coins, and this coin has some interesting coincidences about it. The date the coin was minted, 1797, is the date my earliest known Wray ancestor was born. Also, this variety of the coin has 16 stars, the sixteenth representing the new state of Tennessee. Though my fourth great-grandfather, Thomas Jefferson Wray, was born in Kentucky in 1797, he died in 1839 in the state of Tennessee.

Years ago, my grandfather took me to the grave of Thomas Jefferson Wray and told me the story of his death. He had been drinking at an inn some miles from home when a powerful winter storm blew up. The innkeeper invited him to stay until the storm passed, but Thomas Jefferson Way refused. As he left, he told the

(continued on page 13)

"Home or Hell in Half an Hour"

Favorite American Coins from my Collection

By David Wray - PART 2 of 3

(continued from page 11)

innkeeper, "I'll be in home or Hell in half an hour!"

He never made it home. As his horse galloped along the old road, Thomas accidentally struck his head on a low tree limb and died.

In 1798, the mint replaced the small eagle on the reverse with a large, heraldic eagle. (See Figure 9.) However, the designer committed a faux pas by placing arrows in the right claw (the more honorable claw) and an olive branch in the left (sinister) claw of the eagle. Numismatists often refer to this as a "warlike" placement of arrows on heraldic eagle coins of this period. This coin completes my set of early dollar types.

Figure 9. 1798 Liberty Head Silver Dollar, Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle.

More than a million Draped Bust, Heraldic Eagle Silver Dollars were minted from 1798 to 1804, all at the Philadelphia mint and with dozens of die varieties. It's interesting to note that all the silver dollars struck in 1804 were dated 1802 and 1803. All of the fifteen known silver dollars dated 1804 were struck in the 1830's and 1850's.

After 1800 many U. S. dollars were shipped overseas or melted because of their high silver content. Dollar production stopped completely in 1804, and didn't begin again until 1836.

Editors note: This is part two of a three part series. Part three will be published in the January issue of Winning Ways.

BYLAWS OF WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

Revised May 6, 2005

(Please read these over and be prepared with any changes at the San Francisco general meeting)

ARTICLE I - Name
This organization founded on February 7, 1991 shall be known as Women In Numismatics.

ARTICLE II - Purpose
Section A. The objectives and policies of this organization shall be:

1. Raise the professional status of women in numismatics.
2. Provide a networking forum for women in numismatics.
3. Provide educational opportunities to women in numismatics.
4. Gain recognition for women within the industry.
5. Assist women in obtaining positions within the industry.

ARTICLE III - Membership
Section A. Classifications and qualifications. There shall be five (5) classifications of membership.

1. Charter Members - Regular memberships prior to February 7, 1992 shall be classified as Charter Membership.
2. Regular Members - Regular membership shall be open to those who are 18 years of age or older and are actively engaged in numismatics and/or its related fields. Regular members may vote and hold office.
3. Junior Members - Junior membership shall be open to those who are 17 years of age or younger and are actively involved in numismatics and/or its related fields. Junior members may vote but not hold office.
4. Honorary Members - Honorary membership shall have all rights and privileges of membership except those of voting and holding office.
5. Associate Members - Associate membership is for regular members significant others. Associates will not receive a Winning Ways Journal but will have full voting rights and may hold office. A membership pin will only be issued to an Associate Member who attends WIN meetings and is willing to wear the WIN pin at coin shows and other appropriate occasions.

ARTICLE IV - Applications and Dues
Section A. Application

1. Applications for Regular, Associate and Junior Membership shall be made in writing on the WIN Membership Application Form.
2. All applicants shall return a signed copy of the WIN Members Code of Ethics with the WIN Membership Application Form.

(continued on page 14)

BYLAWS OF WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

(continued from page 13)

Section B. Dues
1. Dues for the established WIN fiscal year shall accompany the WIN Membership form.
2. Dues are not required for Honorary Members.
3. 20% of all dues will be placed in the WIN Scholarship Fund.

Section C. Fiscal Year
1. The fiscal year for this organization shall begin January 1 and end December 31 of the same year.

Section D. Status of Members
1. Good Standing - A member in good standing is one who pays required dues and participates in the activities of the organization.
2. Delinquency - A member whose dues are three (3) months in arrears shall be considered delinquent and so referred to the Board of Directors. A member so reported may be dropped from membership and shall be so advised by written notice. The Board of Directors may, for sufficient cause, extend the time of payment.
3. Reinstatement - A former member may be reinstated at the discretion of the Board of Directors upon payment of necessary dues. Such reinstatement for an original member number will only be granted with full payment of all dues for missing years.

ARTICLE V - Government
Section A. The Board of Directors
1. The governing body of WIN shall consist of nine (9) Directors, each having equal rights.

Section B. Officers: Elected and Appointed
1. Elected Officers of WIN shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) Directors.
2. Two (2) Directors can be appointed by the President with approval of the Board.
3. The Immediate Past President shall serve on the Board of Directors in an advisory and non-voting position.

Section C. Term of Office
1. All officers, elected and appointed, shall serve a term of two (2) years.

Section D. Vacancies
1. Vacancies within the Board of Directors because of death, dismissal or resignation, will be filled by appointment of the President, subject to the approval of the majority vote of the Board Members.

Section E. Board of Directors Responsibilities
The Board of Directors shall have the power to act upon the affairs and business of WIN, including, but not limited to, the following:
1. The election of members to fill the vacancy of any elected office.
2. To rule on the disposition of formal charges brought against any member of WIN.
3. To set membership fees and dues of members from time to time.
4. To remove from office any elected or appointed officer who does not, or cannot, meet the requirements or perform the duties of his or her office. In the event that any officer, whether elected or appointed, does not contribute, participate, or indicate any intention of being active in their responsibilities for a period of not less than six (6) months; or, in the opinion of the Board, the officer does not stay within the bounds of propriety, dignity and good taste; the Secretary shall make attempts to contact said officer and verify their intention on the matter. If the Secretary cannot contact the officer or receive assurance of their desire or capacity to function actively in their Board position, the Board shall have the right to vote, at the discretion of the President, or majority of the Board, to have the officer removed from the position.
5. To employ agents and counsel.
6. To hold meetings at such times and places as it thinks proper.
7. To carry on correspondence and communicate with other associations interested in the numismatic industry.
8. To carry into execution such other items as it deems proper and expedite to promote the interests and the objectives of WIN and its members.
9. To ratify appointments by the President.
10. To receive and act upon all resolutions before they are submitted to the general membership.
11. Amounts of reimbursement and limitations shall be determined by the Board.

Section F. Board of Directors Meetings
1. The Board shall meet once each calendar year at a time and place to be set by the President upon notification of at least three (3) weeks prior to the meeting.
2. When deemed necessary by the President, Vice-President, or by any three (3) Directors, regular or special meeting may be held through any communication means available, provided that all persons participating can hear each other and speak to each other. The Board shall determine by regulation how and when such telephone or other meetings shall be held.

(continued on page 15)

BYLAWS OF WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

(continued from page 14)

Section G. Action By the Board

1. Quorum - A quorum for transaction of business at any regular or special meeting of the Board shall consist of five (5) voting members.
2. Voting - The affirmative vote of the majority of the Board of Directors present at any meeting shall be required to pass any motion, adopt any resolution, or amend the bylaws or Code Of Ethics of WIN. At least three (3) affirmative votes shall be required in any event.
3. Procedure - Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order and these bylaws.
4. Compensation

a. No member of the Board of Directors shall receive compensation for services to WIN.

b. At the Board's discretion, the Editor of Winning Ways may receive an honorarium to cover costs in personal equipment used to produce WIN's Journal and/or extraneous duties as requested by the Board.

4. Reimbursement for Expenses - Directors may be reimbursed for expenses including, but not limited to, the following: secretarial expenses, long distance telephone calls, telegrams, postage, printing and photographic supplies, any necessary expenses to perform the duties of each office.

ARTICLE VI - Responsibilities and Duties of The Officers and Board of Directors

Section A. President - The President shall have supervision over all affairs of WIN. The duties of the President shall include, but not be limited to the following:

1. To preside at all WIN meetings.
2. To call meetings of WIN and the Board of Directors.
3. To preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors.
4. To appoint committees that may, from time to time, be necessary and to remove them at will.
5. To fill, by temporary appointment, any vacancy in any elected office, upon Board approval, until a successor is elected by the general membership.
6. To promote the general welfare of WIN.
7. To speak on behalf of WIN, or to designate others to do so, subject to consultation with the Board of Directors.
8. To serve as an advisory member of the Board of Directors for one (1) year following the conclusion of the Presidential term.
9. To provide a column for each WIN Journal.
10. To sign, with the Treasurer, all written contracts and obligations of WIN
11. To provide the agenda for Board Meetings.
12. To perform such other duties as are necessarily incumbent to the office of President of WIN.

(continued on page 18)

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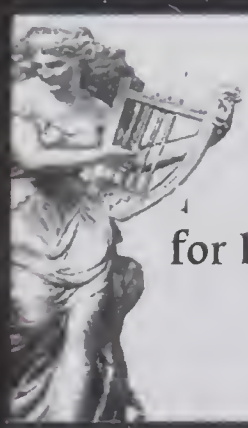

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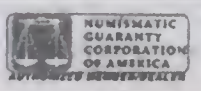

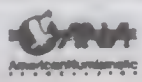

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From the Secretary's Desk

WIN meeting
Saturday May 7, 2005
9:00 AM
CSNS Convention
St. Louis, Missouri

Meeting opened 9:05 A.M.

Officers and board members present... President Prue Fitts, Vice President Don Charters, Secretary Rita Jene Sledz, Publicity Chairperson Carrie Best and Editor Jim Best.

A minute of silence was called for in memory of Gloria Peters and other deceased members.

Introduction made from nine members and five guests. Attendance light due to commitments.

Motion by Nancy Wilson to accept minutes of previous meeting as published in journal - seconded by Mr. Heinrich .. approved.

Treasurers report given by Carrie Best .. motion to accept by Jim Best .. second by Rita Jene .. motion carried.

Due to heavy responsibilities of most members. The 50/50 drawing was not held at this show but there will be a drawing at the San Francisco ANA Show -- motion to fill in name, phone number and address on stubs by John Wilson, seconded by Carrie Best. Motion carried. John Wilson suggested tickets sell for $5.00 each but those present were not totally agreeable to the suggestion - tabled.

The August issue will include our By-Laws in the Journal and any comments or views pro or con will receive consideration by the board. Please submit them to one of our officers or board members.

Our guest speaker, Cindy Grellman, was introduced by Prue. "Coins of the Holy Land" was her topic accompanied by a slide presentation. Cindy said, "The earliest coins recorded were struck in Israel in what was known as the Persian Empire 4th century B.C. Coins were tiny and often carried under the tongue. The Persian Period also included the times Israel was ruled by the Ptolemy of Egypt about 300 to 175 B.C. Ptolemy II had 72 scholars sent to Alexandria to translate the 5 books of Moses. All 72 worked independently of each other but when finished, all translations were said to be identical." This brief synopsis of Ms.. Grellman's presentation may be the nudge you need to study and collect ancient coins.

Certificate of appreciation awarded to Cindy and we thank her sincerely for her fine presentation. Great job Cindy!!!

Door prizes distributed and refreshments served.

Don't forget the WIN general meeting Saturday July 30th at 9:00 A.M. at the ANA show in San Francisco.

Meeting closed at 9:55 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Rita

Rita Jene Sledz
Secretary

Photo at right is Carol Morrow joining up her husband, Dwight as a WIN associate member.

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BYLAWS OF WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

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Section B. Vice-President - The Vice-President shall have the following duties:
1. Upon the request of the President, to offer assistance in the discharge of the Presidential duties.
2. To act in the place of the President in the event of the absence or disability of said Officer.
3. In the event of the death, disability, resignation or removal of the President, to succeed to the office of President.
4. To be in charge of WIN meeting room availability. Duties shall include, but not be limited to, notifying the editor and president of meeting arrangements, scheduled speakers and/or programs for said meetings and refreshments.
5. To act as Program Director for all WIN meetings.

Section C. Secretary - The duties of the Secretary shall be:
1. To record all business transacted at membership meetings and meetings of the Board of Directors, and keep the minutes in a permanent file.
2. To mail minutes of the general membership and Board of Directors meetings to all Board Members. In the absence of the Secretary, the Board of Directors may appoint a Secretary Pro Tem.
3. To keep accurate membership files.
4. To receive membership applications and dues.
5. To forward dues monies to the Treasurer.
6. To order stationary and envelopes as required.
7. To conduct WIN correspondence.
8. To supply the Journal Editor with mailing labels of current members prior to publication; or shall furnish the Journal Editor a current membership list thirty (30) days prior to the printing date.

Section D. Treasurer - The duties of the Treasurer shall be:
1. To receive all monies collected from any source, and to keep an account of same.
2. To maintain records of all monies received and expended for use of WIN.
3. To forward all membership information to the Secretary.
4. To make disbursements only upon receipt of an itemized expense report form in a timely manner. No disbursements will be made without this procedure.
5. To deposit all sums received in a bank or banks in WIN's name.
6. To prepare a report of all funds received and disbursed to be delivered at each general meeting.

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BYLAWS OF WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

(continued from page 18)

7. To prepare an accounting of all funds received and a full and final report on all matters pertaining to the office of Treasurer at the end of the WIN fiscal year. To make a report of the same when called upon by the President at the expiration of the Treasurer's term, the individual holding that office shall deliver over to the successor all books, monies and other property, or, in the absence of the Treasurer-Elect, to the President of WIN.
8. To arrange for an audit at the President's discretion.

Section E. Parliamentarian/Sergeant At Arms - The duties of the Parliamentarian/Sergeant At Arms shall be:
1. To be familiar with Robert's Rules of Order and shall advise the President and Board members.
2. To furnish parliamentary advise when the WIN bylaws are to be amended.
3. To maintain order and decorum at General meetings.
4. To attend the meetings of the Board of Directors.

Section F. Publicity Chairman - The duties of the Publicity Chairman shall be:
1. To publish notice of meetings and information about WIN in the trade publications.
2. To coordinate a photographers attendance at general meetings and special events.
3. To provide photos of general meetings and special events to the WIN Journal Editor.
4. To actively engage in promotions and publicity to enhance the WIN goals and purpose.
5. To attend the Board of Directors meetings.

Section G. Journal Editor - The duties of the Journal Editor shall be:
1. To be editor-in-chief of the WIN newsletter.
2. To collect features for each issue from members.
3. To write, edit and type (or arrange for typesetting) of the Journal.
4. To arrange for publication of the Journal.
5. To mail (or arrange for mailing) of the WIN journal.
6. To establish Journal advertising rates under the direction of the Board of Directors.
7. To attend the Board of Directors meetings.

Section H. Members At Large - The duties of the two (2) Board Members At Large shall be, but not limited to:
1. Duties assigned by the Board of Directors to committees or other positions as needed by WIN>
2. To attend the Board of Directors meetings.

ARTICLE VII - Financial Limitations
Section A. Contracts
1. No member of the organization, including Elected Officers, shall enter into any contract on behalf of the organization with another person or agency without the sanction o the majority of the Board of Directors when such a contract involves commitments of financial payment other than ordinary operating expenses of the organization.

ARTICLE VIII - Election of Officers
Section A. Continuity - The present Board of Directors and Elected Officers of WIN shall continue in office until their successors are elected and installed.

Section B. Nominating Committee - Prior to December 1st of each election year, the President shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of three (3) members who shall present to the President and Board of Directors on or before December 1st, a slate of candidates willing to serve, in the pending vacated positions. Members-at-large are not nominated as they are appointed positions.

Section C. Ballot
1. The President shall instruct the Secretary to prepare and mail a ballot to all eligible members allowing a three (3) week deadline for return.
2. The President shall call a Board Meeting, insuring a quorum is present, for counting ballots and notifying successful candidates.
3. In the event the slate for election is running unopposed, the slate will be presented at the January general meeting and one vote will be cast.

Section D. Installation
1. The installation of the newly Elected Officers and Board of Directors shall occur at the FUN general meeting.

Section E. Meeting of Officers
2. The President shall call a meeting of the outgoing and newly elected Board Members upon the adjournment of the FUN general meeting to complete the transition process, and to provide the transfer of records.

ARTICLE IX - Meetings
Section A. General Meetings
1. Regular membership meetings shall be held in conjunction with as many major shows as possible, with special consideration given to the FUN show, the Spring Central States show, the summer ANA convention and the Fall Long Beach show.
2. Additional meetings shall be announced by the Board through the Publicity Chairman or through the WIN Journal.

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BYLAWS OF WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

(continued from page 19)

ARTICLE X - Code of Ethics
Section A. Pledge

All members shall, as a condition of admission to WIN, sign a pledge reading as follows, and shall comply with the provisions of this Code of Ethics as a condition of maintaining membership in WIN:

As a member of Women In Numismatics (WIN), I acknowledge membership is a privilege, not a matter of right, and recognize my obligation towards my fellow members and Women In Numismatics.

This Code of Ethics has been approved by the Charter Membership of WIN. A breach thereof by any member reflects upon all members, directly or indirectly, and shall be considered cause for termination. Current WIN Directors at time of Code of Ethics breach shall have the right to determine such conduct is not within the best interest of WIN and terminate membership.

As a member of Women In Numismatics, I pledge to:

1. Abide by this Code of Ethics as terms and conditions of membership.
2. Conduct myself as to not bring discredit to WIN or impair the prestige of the membership thereof.
3. Freely exchange information with other members when requested.
4. Base all of my dealings on the highest plane of justice, fairness and morality.
5. Strive to further the numismatic education of this membership through attendance of and assistance in conducting of numismatic programs sponsored by WIN.
6. Neither buy nor sell numismatic items of which the ownership is questionable.
7. Conform to the accepted standards of advertising.
8. Take immediate steps to correct any error I may make in any transaction.
9. Fulfill all contracts made by me, orally or written, make prompt payments upon delivery and return immediately any item that is not satisfactory.

ARTICLE XI - Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order - Newly Revised shall govern the WIN organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any Special Rules of Order the WIN organization may adapt.

ARTICLE XII - Non-Profit Provisions
Section A. Dissolution

Upon dissolution of the WIN organization, after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the organization, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a non-profit fund, foundation or corporation, which has established tax-exempt status under Section 501C of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section B. Earnings

No part of the net earnings of the WIN organization shall ever inure to or be the benefit of or be distributed to its members, trustees, directors or other private person, except that the organization shall be empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distribution in furtherance of the exempt purpose for which it was formed.

Section C. Activities

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Bylaws, the WIN organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by an associate exempt from Federal Income Tax and Under Section 501c4 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1991.

ARTICLE XIII - Amendments
Section A. Bylaws

1. These bylaws can be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors of WIN by a vote of 2/3 of the vote of the members of the Board attending, provided that a quorum is present. No amendment may be made by the Board that affects the voting rights of the members without the members having first approved the same by majority vote.
2. These bylaws shall go into effect thirty (30) days after approved by the Board of Directors.

Please review these by-laws, we will have some discussion about these at the meeting in San Francisco.

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Felix Schlag Review

1. What country was Mr. Schlag's home country?
   a. Austria b. France c. Germany d. Great Britain

2. What did Mr. Schlag become famous for?
   a.Designing the Betsy Ross Medal b. Designing the Jefferson Nickel
   c.Photographing the U.S. Capital

3. What was the year that Mr. Schlag entered the competition to design the Jefferson Nickel?
   a.1925 b. 1937 c. 1942 d. 1938

4. How much money did Mr. Schlag win when they chose his design for the new nickel?
   a. $100.00 b. $500.00 c. $1,000.00 d. $5,000.00

5. What city did Mr. Schlag live in when he died?
   a. Detroit b. Elk Rapids c. Owosso d. Saginaw

6. What city did Mr. Schlag live when he first moved to Michigan?
   a. Detroit b. Elk Rapids c. Owosso d. Saginaw

7. What famous building in Chicago has sculpture work of Mr. Schlag's at its entrance?
   a. WGN Building b. Wrigley Field
   c. Science & Industry Museum d. Field Convention Center

8. What was Mr. Schlag's wife's profession?
   a. Secretary b. School Teacher c. Bookkeeper d. Cook

9. What was the year that Mr. Schlag's initials were put on the Jefferson nickel?
   a. 1938 b. 1939 c. 1972 d. 1966

10. What was the profession that Mr. Schlag turned to when World War II ended the requests for sculpture design work?
   a. Photographer b. School Teacher c. Numismatist d. Lecturer

(answers below)

A Thanksgiving weekend of a different kind!
By Rita Jene Sledz

As Thanksgiving draws near and your plans take shape
it may be the perfect time to escape.
Maybe it's time to try something new
getting away just may be for you.

"That's fine you say, but where shall I go?"
Why not come to the Michigan State Show?
There's more than 200 tables on site...
a bourse floor that's really cheery and bright.
The Dearborn Hyatt is the host hotel
and they offer convention rates as well.

The nearby area has much to do
Greenfield Village, Ford Museum, Imax Theater too.
Fairlane Mall with shops galore
to search for bargains store by store.

So leave those pots and pans behind
for a Thanksgiving weekend of a different kind.
Come, bring yourself and your family too...
The Michigan State Show will welcome you!!

ANSWERS: 1. C - Germany; 2. B - Designing the Jefferson Nickel; 3. D - 1938; 4. C - $1,000.00; 5. C - Owosso; 6. B - Elk Rapids; 7. C - Science and Industry Museum; 8. B - School Teacher; 9. D - 1966; 10. A - Photographer

W.I.N. Scholarship Award

If you would like to apply for WIN's scholarship award to the ANA summer conference, now is the time! Deadline for applications is December 15. If you want to apply:

- You need to write a full page (200-250 word) essay including why you want to attend the conference, and your numismatic background to the editor.
- Also send a signed and dated disclaimer that you will not hold WIN responsible for loss or injury while attending or traveling to or from the conference.
- The winner agrees to provide Winning Ways a report on their experience at the summer seminar, reasonable length suggested.
- You must be a WIN member at least one year before applying, be an active member such as:
  - writing articles for Winning Ways,
  - serving on the board or directors,
  - presenting a program at a WIN meeting,
  - selling 50/50 tickets at a major show
  - signing up at least 4 new members, within the past couple of years.
- Dues paid for the scholarship year must accompany the application if not already paid. All dues must be received by Dec. 15.
- **WIN pays** present ANA member tuition, and dormitory room and board for a double occupancy room.
- You are eligible if your WIN dues are paid and you have not won a scholar ship in the last 5 years.
- The winning name will be drawn at the WIN meeting in conjunction with the FUN show each January. You do not need to be present to win.

We look forward to receiving your application SOON!!

FUTURE ARTICLES FOR WINNING WAYS

I was recently asked a question from a collector

It was "At coin shops and coin shows, I see trade dollars and other U.S. coins that are marketed as copies. Even at close examination they appear to look like the real legal tender coins. Some have the word "COPY" stamped into the coin, many others do not. Why is this not counterfeiting? Do you envision that this growing availability of these copies could have an extremely negative impact on the hobby of coin collecting?

Do you have an answere to this question? Could you write an article for Winning Ways on this subject? If so, please contact Jim Best, Editor of Winning Ways.

IN MEMORY OF:
Linda Diane Hodges
October 3, 1956 - May 23, 2005

The numismatic community has lost a great friend and we are saddened by her loss. Linda became involved in numismatics around 1997 when she began working for Larry Lee at his coin shop, Coin and Bullion Reserve, in Panama City, Florida. Of course, she had been around coins much longer because her husband of 23 years, Steve Hodges, was a coin collector and a coin dealer.

Linda and Steve were married February 2, 1982. At that time, Steve and Ken Blackwell owned a company called Northwest Florida Investment Corporation in Panama City. Steve got out of the coin business for a few years and operated a video business. Steve returned to the coin business in 1997 when he started to work for Coin and Bullion Reserve. All during this time Linda was by Steve's side, helping him with his coin business and other ventures. Often she attended coin shows and learned about the coin business the way many other women (including me) become introduced to numismatics.

By 1999, Steve and Linda formed a new partnership and called it West Bay Trading Company. The first few years they remained in Panama City, Florida. However, they began searching for a new place to establish a store and selected Vero Beach, Florida. They were interested in buying and selling Spanish treasure coins and Vero was the perfect place to set up shop. Although I had met Linda and Steve several times at various coin shows, it was when they were establishing their new shop that I came to know them on a personal basis. Often Steve and Linda would visit DeLand Coins and Collectibles where I was working with my husband, Dwight Morrow. Dwight and Steve had known each other for years in the coin business and were good friends. Both Linda and Steve were very personable and I enjoyed getting to know them very much.

The past few years have been very busy ones for the Hodges. They have worked side by side in their shop, at coins shows and with the local coin club. They spent a great deal of time helping members of the Treasure Coast Coin Club run the annual Vero Beach Coin Show each January. They have been members in good standing of ANA (American Numismatics Association)and FUN (Florida United Numismatists) along with other coin organizations. The past few years, Linda was very involved with the local youth. She encourage many of them to become Young Numismatists so that they could learn about coins and apply for scholarships to attend the ANA summer classes in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Several did win scholarships as a result of Linda' s encouragement and sponsorship.

Linda specialized in Spanish Treasure coins and Ancient coins. She took ANA classes to learn how to grade coins. Her knowledge of coins, her dedication to her business and to her family will all be missed. And, as Steve said recently, "Anybody that had a chance to meet Linda really liked her." Although Linda did not have a membership in WIN, she certainly would have made a great contribution to the organization. This past weekend, I recruited several new members who joined our organization, including Steve and Dwight. Had Linda been able to be at the Jacksonville show, I am certain she would have accepted the invitation to join.

by Carol Jean Morrow -- June 2005

Stephanie Westric(Linda's Daughter), Linda Diane Hodges, and Steve Hodges(Linda's Husband)

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